

Claims

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. In a computer system having a graphical user interface including a display and a selection device, a method of bookmarking a document rendered on the display, the method comprising steps of:
- receiving a first selection signal indicative of the selection device pointing to a desired part of the document; and
- responsive to the first selection signal, displaying a visual indicator representative of a
- 10 bookmark with the desired part of the document.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first selection signal is indicative of the selection device pointing to a predetermined region of the desired part of the document.
- 15 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the first selection signal is indicative of the selection device pointing to a user-selected point within the predetermined region, and wherein the visual indicator is displayed at the user-selected point.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the visual indicator comprises information identifying
- 20 the desired part of the document.
5. The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of:
- displaying information regarding at least the bookmark based on properties of
- bookmarks.
- 25 6. The method of claim 5, further comprising a step of:
- displaying a list comprising information regarding a plurality of bookmarks based on user-selected ones of the properties of bookmarks.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of:
responsive to the selection signal, generating a bookmark object represented by the visual indicator.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the bookmark object is generated within a user space separate from the document.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the bookmark object comprises information linking the bookmark object to the desired part of the document.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein the bookmark object comprises user-modifiable properties corresponding to the visual indicator.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the user-modifiable properties comprise information defining at least one of: a color of the visual indicator, a shape of the visual indicator, a size of the visual indicator, a placement of the visual indicator, a font of the visual indicator, a title of the visual indicator and textual content of the visual indicator or links to other locations.

12. The method of claim 7, further comprising steps of:
receiving a removal signal corresponding to the visual indicator; and
responsive to the removal signal, removing, from the display, the visual indicator and eliminating the bookmark object.

13. The method of claim 1, further comprising steps of:
displaying another part of the document and, while the other part of the document is being displayed, displaying at least a portion of the visual indicator.

14. The method of claim 13, further comprising steps of:
receiving a second selection signal indicative of the selection device pointing to the at

[illegible]

15. In a computer system having a graphical user interface including a display, a method of placemarking a document rendered on the display, the method comprising steps of:

receiving a discontinuation signal indicating that the document is to no longer be displayed on the display; and

responsive to the discontinuation signal, generating a placemark object comprising information identifying a last-viewed part of the document, wherein the last-viewed part of the document is being displayed when the discontinuation signal is received.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the placemark object is generated within a user space separate from the document.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the placemark object comprises information linking the placemark object to the last-viewed part of the document.

18. The method of claim 15, further comprising steps of:

receiving a display request signal indicating that the document is to be re-displayed on the display; and

responsive to the display request signal and based on the placemark object, re-displaying the last-viewed part of the document.

19. The method of claim 18, further comprising a step of:

no earlier than the step of re-displaying the last-viewed part of the document and responsive to the display request signal, eliminating the placemark object.

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20. A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable components for bookmarking a document rendered on a display, the computer-executable components comprising:

a receiver component that is capable of taking as input a first selection signal indicating selection of a desired part of the document; and
a display component that is capable of causing, in response to the first selection signal, a visual indicator to be displayed with the desired part of the document.

21. The computer-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the receiver component is capable of responding to the first selection signal indicating that the selection device is pointing to a predetermined region of the desired part of the document.

22. The computer-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the receiver component is capable of responding to the first selection signal indicating that the selection device is pointing to a user-selected point within the predetermined region, and wherein the display component is capable of causing the visual indicator to be displayed at the user-selected point.

23. The computer-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the display component is capable of causing the visual indicator to comprise information identifying the desired part of the document.

24. The computer-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the display component is capable of causing at least a portion of the visual indicator to be displayed while another part of the document is being displayed.

25. The computer-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the receiver component is capable of taking as input a second selection signal indicating the selection of the at least the portion of the visual indicator, and wherein the display component is capable of causing the desired part of the document to be displayed responsive to the second selection signal.

26. The computer-readable medium of claim 21 having further computer-executable components comprising:

a generating component that, responsive to the selection signal, is capable of creating a bookmark object represented by the visual indicator.

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27. The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the generating component is capable of creating the bookmark object within a user space separate from the document.

28. The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the generating component is capable of providing, as part of the bookmark object, information linking the bookmark object to the desired part of the document.

29. The computer-readable medium of claim 26, wherein the generating component is capable of providing, as part of the bookmark object, user-modifiable properties corresponding to the visual indicator, the user-modifiable properties comprising information defining at least one of: a color of the visual indicator, a shape of the visual indicator, a size of the visual indicator, a placement of the visual indicator, a font of the visual indicator, a title of the visual indicator and textual content of the visual indicator.

30. The computer-readable medium of claim 26 having further computer-executable components comprising:

a removal component, responsive to a removal signal corresponding to the visual indicator, that is capable of removing, from the display, the visual indicator and that is capable of causing the bookmark object to be eliminated;

wherein the receiving component is capable of taking as input the removal signal.

31. A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable components for placemarking a document rendered on a display, the computer-executable components comprising:

a receiver component that is capable of taking as input a discontinuation signal indicating that the document is to no longer be displayed on the display; and

a generating component that, responsive to the discontinuation signal, is capable of creating a placemark object, the placemark object comprising information identifying a last-viewed part of the document that is being displayed when the discontinuation signal is received.

32. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the generating component is capable of creating the placemark object within a user space separate from the document.

33. The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the generating component is capable of providing, as part of the placemark object, information linking the placemark object to the last-viewed part of the document.

34. The computer-readable medium of claim 31 having further computer-executable components comprising:

a display component, responsive to a display request signal indicating that the document is to be re-displayed on the display, that is capable of causing the last-viewed part of the document to be re-displayed based on the placemark object;

wherein the receiver component is capable of taking as input the display request signal.

35. The computer-readable medium of claim 34 having further computer-executable components comprising:

a removal component that is capable of eliminating the placemark object responsive to the display request signal and no earlier than when the display component has caused the last-viewed part of the document to be re-displayed.

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36. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure comprising:
a first data field comprising information linking the data structure to a document; and
a second data field comprising information identifying a part of the document being
marked by the data structure.

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37. The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein the data structure is representative
of a bookmark, and the part of the document being marked comprises a desired part of the
document.

10 38. The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein the data structure is representative
of a placemark, and the part of the document being marked comprises a last-viewed part of the
document.

15 39. The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein the first data field comprises a
hyperlink.

40. The computer-readable medium of claim 36, further comprising:
a third data field comprising information regarding user-modifiable properties that control
behavior of a visual indicator corresponding to the data structure.

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25 41. The computer-readable medium of claim 40, wherein the information regarding user-
modifiable properties comprises information defining at least one of: a color of the visual
indicator, a shape of the visual indicator, a size of the visual indicator, a placement of the visual
indicator, a font of the visual indicator, a title of the visual indicator and textual content of the
visual indicator or links to other locations.

42. The computer-readable medium of claim 36, wherein the document is stored on the
computer-readable medium.

